

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 06563 270702Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 /068 W

----- 011546

R 261530Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3134

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6563

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, GW, UK

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR COOPER'S CALL ON AMBASSADOR CRADDOCK

1. ON AUGUST 26 I PAID A FINAL CALL ON BRITISH AMBASSADOR PERCY CRADDOCK. WE WERE ALONE AND THE TALK LASTED FORTY-FIVE MINUTES. AT THE AMBASSADOR'S SUGGESTION IT TOOK PLACE IN THEIR SPECIAL CONFERENCE ROOM.

2. AMBASSADOR CRADDOCK ARRIVED IN FEBRUARY , 1976. DURING OUR OFFICIAL CALLS AND SHORT TALKS AT VARIOUS SOCIAL FUNCTIONS NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE HAS BEEN DISCUSSED. HE IS COURTEOUS AND FREINDLY, RESERVED, LIKE HIS PREDECESSOR DOES NOT VOLUNTEER INFORMATION OR ASK MANY QUESTIONS.

3. TODAY HE ASKED ME ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE GDR. I RESPONDED BRIEFLY, NOTING THE CORRECT ATTITUDE OF GDR OFFICIALS BUT THAT LITTLE OF POLITICAL SUBSTANCE HAD BEEN ACHIEVED. THE GDR HAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BERLIN 06563 270702Z

INDICATED THEIR CHIEF INTEREST IS IN TRADE.

4. AMBASSADOR CRADDOCK RESPONDED THAT THE UK EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN SIMILAR, AND NOTED THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) HUMANITARIAN CASES- THIS IS NOT A LARGE QUESTION FOR THE UK.

NOT MANY UK CITIZENS HAD ASKED THE EMBASSY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE GDR; IT APPEARED PRESUMABLY THAT SOME UK CITIZENS PREFERRED TO HANDLE CASES THROUGH GDR OR FRG ATTORNEYS.

B) CONSULAR CONVENTION-HE SIMPLY NOTED" YOU KNOW ABOUT IT. WE DECIDED TO BE GOOD BOYS." I CONFIRMED THE US POSITION.

C) THERE HAD BEEN NO OFFICIAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT AND FEX EXCHANGES.

D) POLITICAL VISITS

1. GOETTINGS VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF THE UK HOUSE OF COMMONS HAD APPEARED TO GRATIFY THE VOLKSKAMMER'S DESIRE TO BE RECOGNIZED. UK HOUSE OF COMMON'S SPEAKER WOULD RETURN THE GDR VISIT.

2. FISCHER'S COMING VISIT TO LONDON, FOR WHICH THE AMBASSADOR WILL RETURN TO LONDON, WAS NOT EXPECTED TO BE OF GREAT POLITICAL IMPORTANCE EXCEPT TO THE GDR. IT WAS EXPECTED THAT TALKS WOULD BE GENERAL: BILATERAL RELATIONS, DETENTE, WITH FISCHER'S EMPHASIS ON ONE IMPORTANT ISSUE WHICH I DISCUSS IN PARAGRAPH 5 BELOW.

5. THE UK HAD COMMUNICATED TO THE GDR A POLICY OF ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH THE GDR ON THE SAME BASIS AS UK RELATIONS WITH OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. THE GDR HAD "GLOWED" AT THE STATEMENT AND WAS SEEKING PROMPT AND IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION. UK POLICY WAS TO MOVE SLOWLY, TO RECEIVE RECIPROCAL BENEFITS STEP-BY-STEP WHICH, FROM THE AMBASSADOR'S LATER STATEMENTS, APPEARED TO BE AN INCREASE IN UK EXPORTS. HE FRANKLY SAID THAT THE UK DESIRED TO INCREASE ITS EXPORTS TO THE GDR, AND THE REASONS APPEAR OBVIOUS. (I NOTED AT THE MARCH LEIPZIG FAIR THE AMBASSADOR, THEN NEWLY ARRIVED, AND THE UK DELEGATION SEEMED TO BE MAKING A GREAT EFFORT TO INTEREST THE GDR AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN TRADE).

6. COMMENTS ON RECENT BORDER INCIDENTS AND GDR AND SOVIET REACTIONS:

A) GDR RESPONSE-IT APPEARED THAT THE GDR KNEW THAT ITS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE WORLD RECOGNITION HAD BEEN SEVERELY DAMAGED BY ITS BRUTAL ACTION, AND IT UNDERTOOK TO LAY THE BLAME ON THE FRG BY OFFICIAL AND MEDIA STATEMENTS.

B) SOVIET RESPONSE-AMBASSADOR NOTED SEVERAL REASONS, WHICH HE DID NOT SAY WERE HIS PERSONAL VIEWS:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BERLIN 06563 270702Z

1. THE SOVIET FELT IT NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE GDR. FOR THIS AND REASONS FOLLOWING IT USED THE CLAIM THAT TRANSIT AND ACCESS FROM FRG TO BERLIN WAS A MATTER OF GDR JURISDICTION. THE AMBASSADOR DENIED (AS IS THE US POSITION) THAT SUCH AN ARGUMENT HAS ANY BASIS IN THE QA.

2. HE CONSIDERED THAT THE SOVIET STATEMENT WAS RELATED TO ITS CONTINUING PROTESTS AGAINST FRG ACTS AND PROPOSALS RELATING TO TIES WITH WEST BERLIN, SUCH AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE, MEETING OF

VARIOUS KINDS IN WEST BERLIN, BUT CHIEFLY THE PROPOSED RELATIONSHIP OF WEST BERLIN TO THE EEC. HE EXPRESSED NO VIEW AS TO THE SITUATION, NOR DID I, AS IT IS BEYOND OUR COMPETENCE.

3. FURTHER, HE CONSIDERED THE SOVIET RESPONSE AS A WARNING THAT THE SOVIETS MAY INSIST ON A MEETING OF THE QA SIGNATORIES TO EXAMINE AN INTERPRETATION OF THE QA.

4. HE THOUGHT THAT RECENT SOVIET REACTIONS TO THE BORDER AND TRANSIT ISSUES, ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE REPEATED, BUT ARE CONSIDERED BY THE SOVITS AS NECESSARY AND STRONG ACTION TO EMPHASIZE THE POINTS HE MADE ABOVE IN (B)(1),(2) AND (3) ABOVE.
COOPER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BERLIN06563
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760327-0320
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760818/aaaaaphn.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR COOPER'S CALL ON AMBASSADOR CRADDOCK
TAGS: PFOR, GC, GE, UK, US, (CRADDOCK, PERCY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006